

SENATE RESOLUTION 86
By Crutchfield

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Dr. Deborah DiStefano for her many professional achievements.

WHEREAS, it is the great pleasure of this General Assembly to honor and salute those physicians who, through their unerring research and devotion to patient welfare, have distinguished themselves as medical innovators of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Deborah DiStefano is one such remarkable physician, having spent several years pioneering several types of laser eye surgery; and

WHEREAS, a Board Certified Ophthalmologist, Dr. DiStefano received her ophthalmology specialty training at The Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and completed a fellowship at Harvard University; she now serves as an Assistant Clinical Instructor at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, she was recruited from Harvard to become the Chairperson of the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga unit, a position in which she served with acumen and alacrity for ten years; and

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WHEREAS, returning to her own practice, Dr. DiStefano began working with refractive surgery in 1984; since that time, Dr. DiStefano has performed thousands of laser procedures to correct myopia, astigmatism, and hyperopia, and also offers multiple technologies and personalized solutions for patients suffering from vision problems; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her work with laser surgery, Dr. DiStefano is also the Director and Founder of Atrium Aesthetics, a medical dayspa in which patients may undergo a number of medically approved cosmetic procedures; and

WHEREAS, heavily involved within her profession, Dr. DiStefano is a member of the American Medical Association, the International Society of Refractive Surgery, the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, and the American Academy of Ophthalmology; she also volunteers her time locally with Room at the Inn, the Children's Advocacy Center, and serves on the Board of the Helen DiStefano Fund, an organization founded to financially assist mothers with breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Dr. DiStefano was awarded "Who's Who in the South and Southeast" 1983-1984 and in 1996 through 1999, "Best Doctor in America" as seen on *60 Minutes*; and

WHEREAS, her many professional and personal accomplishments aside, Dr. DiStefano is perhaps most grateful for the love and companionship she shares with her husband and two children; and

WHEREAS, physicians like Dr. DiStefano are truly medical pioneers, who are seeking to improve the quality of life for the citizens of the State of Tennessee and people throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pay tribute to Dr. DiStefano for her noble efforts; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Dr. Deborah

DiStefano upon her many professional achievements, salute her dedication to her patients and to medicine, and wish her the best in her every future endeavor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.